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**James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson, February 23,
1826, from Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe
Correspondence, Transcribed and Edited by Gerard W.
Gawalt, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**

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James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson

Oak Hill Feby 23. 1826.

Dear Sir

I mentiond in a letter which I lately wrote to you, that I had seen in a paper from Richmond, a notice of an application which you had made to the legislature for permission to sell a large portion of your estate, by lottery, for the payment of your debts, and that I should write you again on the subject. Since then I have been much indisposed with the influenza, from which, I have not yet intirely recover'd. I have been much concern'd to find, that your devotion to the public service, for so great a length of time & at so difficult an epoch, should have had so distressing an effect, on your large private fortune, and my regret is the greater, from the interest I take in what relates to your family as well as to yourself. It is a concern in which I am satisfied, the people will take a deep interest, and that the very high claims on your country what it seldom refuses to any one, cannot be doubted. As soon as I saw that notice, I communicated it to my friends in New York, and particularly to Mr. Gouverneur, with a request,

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that they would promote the object and which they will do. I shall do the same to others in other quarters. My motive in this, is, to assure you that if in any way, I may be useful to you, it will be very gratifying to me, to be apprized of it.

With great respect and sincere regard I am your friend James Monroe

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